

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME  
DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES  
NEWS RELEASE**



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**2013 Kuskokwim River Salmon Fishery News Release 15  
Kuskokwim River Subdistrict 1-B to open for Commercial Salmon Fishing**

This is an announcement from the Alaska Department of Fish and Game at Bethel for commercial salmon fishermen in the Kuskokwim Area.

**Subdistrict 1-B**

**All of Subdistrict 1-B will open to commercial salmon fishing for 6 hours from 10:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 10, 2013.**

The Bethel Test Fishery index on August 8 indicates an increase in coho salmon passing through Subdistrict 1-B. Subsistence reports are that catch rates are high above Subdistrict 1-B. This indicates that good numbers of coho salmon are getting through the commercial district to provide for escapement and subsistence needs. High catch rates were also reported at the mouth, which indicates good numbers of fish moving into the river. The processor anticipates adequate capacity to process the catch.

The hours for subsistence closures adjacent to periods of commercial fishing on the Kuskokwim River are 6 hours before, during, and 3 hours after commercial fishing. The area closed to subsistence fishing includes the subdistrict open to commercial fishing and a buffer area of the adjacent subdistrict. **Therefore, from 4:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, August 10, subsistence salmon fishing in the Kuskokwim River will be closed from the upper end of Straight Slough downstream to the mouth,** defined by a line from Apokak Slough to the southern-most tip of Eek Island to Popokamiut.

At this time there is not interest from buyers to purchase commercially harvested salmon in Subdistrict 1-A. Therefore, future Kuskokwim River commercial fishing periods are anticipated to occur in Subdistrict 1-B.

The Department will be closely monitoring commercial fishing periods to assess fishery performance and anticipates announcing additional commercial fishing periods as warranted. Further announcements will be made from the Bethel Fish and Game office, on the state web site (<http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>), and local radio stations. News releases will be faxed to area villages and local fish processing companies.

For additional information or questions regarding Districts 1 and Kuskokwim Area fisheries, contact the Alaska Department of Fish and Game office in the Bethel at 543-2433 or toll free at 855-933-2433.

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